(a) whether the Government are aware that there are gross irregularities in the matter of filling the vacancies exclusively reserved for ex-servicemen;

(c) whether the Government propose to set up a separate Recruitment Board for ex-servicemen;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, whether the Government propose to consider referring all vacancies for ex-servicemen to Director General, Resettlement before these are de-reserved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) and (b). No, Sir. No instance of any irregularity in filling up of the reserved vacancies for ex-Servicemen has come to notice. A compilation of Government orders/ instructions of reservations, concessions and relaxations for ex-Servicemen in Central Government services has been brought out and circulated by the Department of Personnel and Training among all the Ministries/Departments for their information and guidance.

(c) and (d). Recruitment to Group 'D' posts is made by the employing Department, from among the candidates sponsored by the concerned Employment Exchanges and there is no requirement of written examination in such selection. As regards recruitment against Group 'C' posts, including those reserved for ex-Servicemen, the same is made through the Staff Selection Commission. Therefore, there is no need for setting up of a separate Recruitment Board for recruitment of ex-Servicemen against these posts.

(e) Under the extant instructions, it is mandatory for all the employing Departments of Central Government to obtain "No Objection Certificate" from Directorate General Resettlement before de-reserving the vacancies reserved for ex-Servicemen.

Elections in Jammu and Kashmir

724. SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government propose to hold elections in Jammu and Kashmir to install a popular Government there; and

(b) if so, the time by which these are likely to be held?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) and (b). The elections will be held in Jammu and Kashmir as soon as the conditions are conducive to the holding of elections there. However, it may not be possible to indicate any time schedule at this stage.

[*Translation*]

Export of Fruits and Vegetables

725. SHRI VILASRAO NAGNATHRAO GUNDEWAR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the production of fruits and vegetables in the country is in abundance;

(b) if so, the steps being taken by the Government to encourage the export of these items;

(c) whether Indian fruits and vegetables